



# Introduction

This is a learning as well as an exam preparation video.

At the end of the video are practice assignments for you to attempt.

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# **Chapter 7: Lifelines of National Economy**

# Chapter 7: Lifelines of National Economy

## Introduction

The movement of these goods and services from their supply locations to demand locations necessitates the need for transport. Some people are engaged in facilitating these movements. These are known to be traders who make the products come to the consumers by transportation. Thus, the pace of development of a country depends upon the production of goods and services as well as their movement over space. Therefore, efficient means of transport are prerequisites for fast development.

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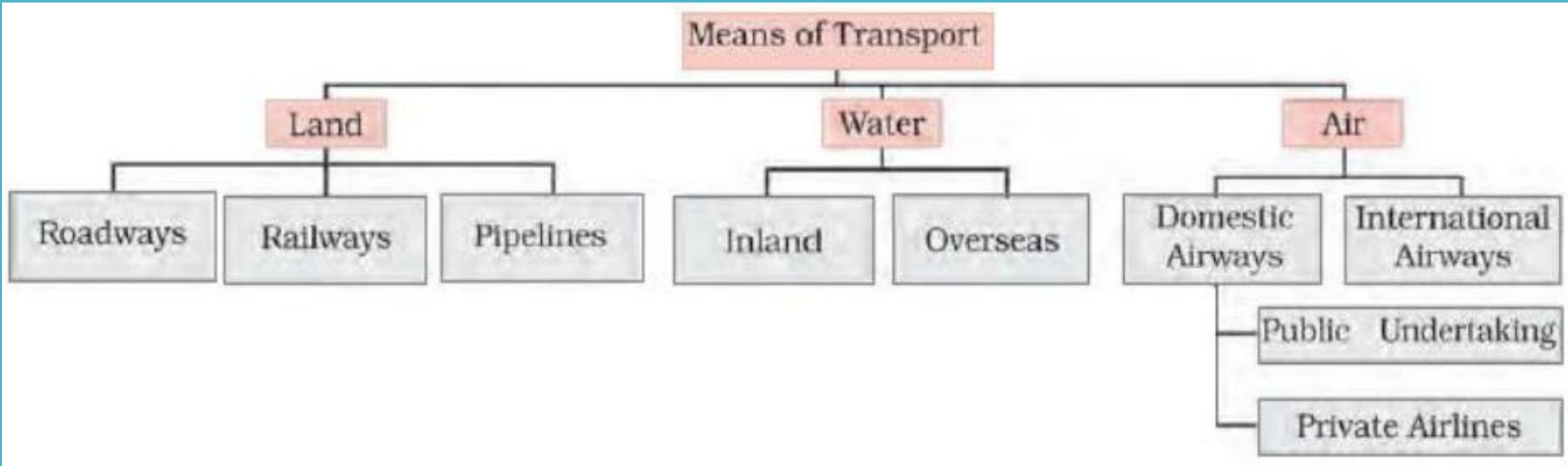
## Transport

Transport plays a crucial role in the development of any economy. Modern means of transport have become the lifelines of our nation.

Transport or transportation is the movement of people, animals and goods from one location to another.

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## Transport



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## Roadways:

India has one of the largest networks of roadways in the world. The length of road per 100 sq km. of area is known as the density of roads. Kerala has the highest density of roads.

The network of roads in India is denser than the railways because of the following reasons:

- construction cost of roads is much lower than that of railway lines.

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## Roadways:

- roads can traverse comparatively more dissected and undulating topography,
- roads can negotiate higher gradients of slopes and as such can traverse mountains such as the Himalayas,
- road transport is economical in transportation of few persons and relatively smaller amount of goods over short distances,



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## Roadways:

- it also provides door-to-door service, thus the cost of loading and unloading is much lower,
- road transport is also used as a feeder to other modes of transport such as they provide a link between railway stations, air and sea ports.

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## Classification of Roads in India

In India, roads are classified into six major categories.

Types of Roads	Names/Projects	Significance	Maintenance Authority
Golden Quadrilateral Superhighways	The north–south corridors linking Srinagar and Kanyakumari, and the east–west corridors linking Silchar in Assam to Porbandar in Gujarat. A project is on to link Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai by six-lane superhighways.	Link various important cities and reduce the time of travel and distance between mega cities.	National Authority of India (NAI)

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## Classification of Roads in India

Types of Roads	Names/Projects	Significance	Maintenance Authority
National Highways	National highways connect cities and states to one another. Sher Shah Suri Marg is called National Highway No. 1 and runs between Delhi and Amritsar.	Connect various cities across one or more states.	Central Public Works Department (CPWD)

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## Classification of Roads in India

Types of Roads	Names/Projects	Significance	Maintenance Authority
State Highways	The state highways connect capital cities with district headquarters in a state.	Connect various cities within a state.	State Public Works Department (PWD)

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## Classification of Roads in India

Types of Roads	Names/Projects	Significance	Maintenance Authority
District Roads	They connect district headquarters with other places in a district.	Link various towns and cities in a district.	Zilla Parishad

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## Classification of Roads in India

Types of Roads	Names/Projects	Significance	Maintenance Authority
Other Roads	They connect various villages and towns.	Connect villages to one and other and to towns. Crucial to the transport of agricultural products to markets.	Local bodies and funds are also allocated by the Central and State Governments.

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## Classification of Roads in India

Types of Roads	Names/Projects	Significance	Maintenance Authority
Border Roads	They are built along the borders of our country.	Strengthen defences of the country.	Border Road Organisation (works under the Central Government)

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## Classification of Roads in India

Roads can also be classified on the basis of the type of material used for their construction such as metalled and unmetalled roads. Metalled roads may be made of cement, concrete or even bitumen of coal, therefore, and narrow. Unmetalled roads go out of use in the rainy season.



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## Problems faced by Roads in India

- Road network is inadequate in India.
- About half of the roads are unmetalled and this limits their usage during the rainy season.
- The roadways are highly congested in cities.
- Most of the bridges are old and narrow.
- Disrespect to the traffic rules is the major problem. Citizen have casual attitude towards traffic rules, which leads to accidents causing traffic jams.

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## Railways

Railways are an important means of transport for carrying passengers and goods over a long distance. They bind the entire country together. They have contributed to the growth of the national economy by transporting agricultural and industrial products all over the country. The Indian Railways is organised into 16 zones.



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## Railways

Some problems faced by the railways in India are

- It is difficult to lay railway lines over rivers. It can be done by building bridges which is costly.
- It is extremely difficult to lay railway lines in hilly regions because of rugged terrains and steep slopes of the mountains.

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## Railways

- It is not easy to construct railway lines on the sandy plains of Rajasthan, swampy areas of Gujarat and forested regions of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand.
- Many people travel without tickets causing loss to the Indian Railways. Damage and theft of railway property has also harmed the Indian Railways.

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## Railways

The Indian Railway network runs on multiple gauge operations extending over 68,442 km.

Gauge in metres	Route (Km)	Running Track (Km)	Total Track (Km.)
Broad Gauge (1.676)	63,491	89,521	1,17,560
Metre Gauge (1.000)	3,200	3,462	3,775
Narrow Gauge (0.762 and 0.610)	1,751	1,752	1,901
<b>Total</b>	<b>68,442</b>	<b>94,735</b>	<b>1,23,236</b>

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## Railways

However, despite all the above problems, the railways have immensely contributed to the growth of our economy. More railway lines are being laid to link inaccessible parts of the country. For example, the development of Konkan Railway along the west coast has made the movement of people and goods easier in the region.

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## Waterways:

Waterways are the most important means of transporting bulky and heavy goods. It is a fuel-efficient and environmental friendly means of transport. Inland waterways connect rivers, canals, backwater and creeks within the country. The following waterways have been declared as national waterways by the Government:

- N.W. No.1: The Ganga river between Allahabad and Haldia (1620 km).
- N.W. No.2: The Brahmaputra river between Sadiya and Dhubri (891 km).

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## Waterways:

- N.W. No.3: The West-Coast Canal in Kerala (Kottapurma-Kollam, Udyogamandal and Champakkara canals-205 km).
- N.W. No.4: Specified stretches of Godavari and Krishna rivers along with Kakinada Puducherry stretch of canals (1078 km).



*Inland waterways widely used in north-eastern states*



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## Waterways:

- **N.W. No.5: Specified stretches of river Brahmani along with Matai river, delta channels of Mahanadi and Brahmani rivers and East Coast Canal (588 km)..**

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## Sea Ports:

India is a peninsular country and has a long coast line. There are 12 major and 187 minor sea ports in the country. Some famous sea ports are

- Mumbai is the biggest port. Jawaharlal Nehru Port was built in order to decongest the Mumbai port.

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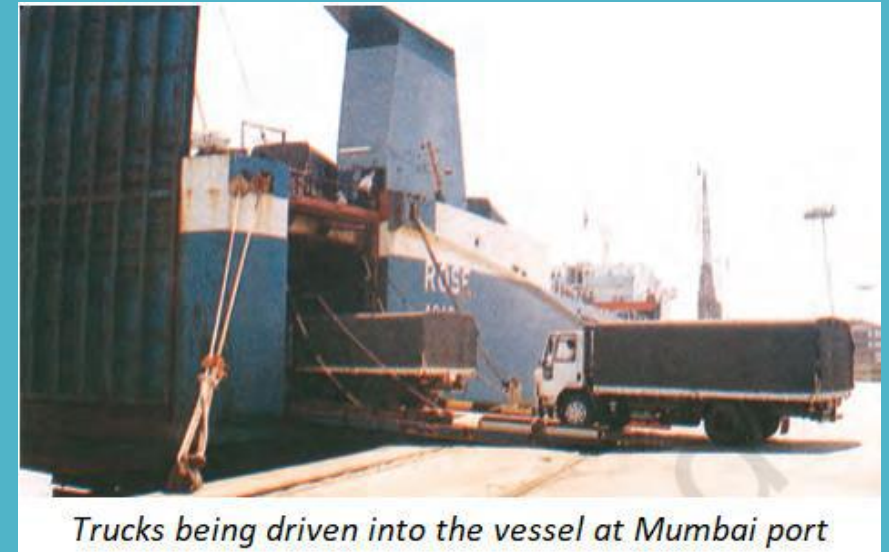
## Sea Ports:

- Mormugao Port in Goa is an important iron ore-exporting port in the country.
- New Mangalore Port exports iron ore which is concentrated in the Kudremukh mines.
- Kochi Port is located in the extreme southwestern part of the country. It has been developed alongside a natural harbour.

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## Sea Ports:

- Tuticorin Port in Tamil Nadu has a natural harbour and exports cargoes to our neighbouring countries.
- Chennai is one of the oldest artificial ports of our country. It is next to Mumbai in terms of trading activities.



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## Sea Ports:

- Vishakhapatnam is the deepest landlocked port.
- Kolkata is an inland riverine port. Haldia Port was developed to reduce pressure of the Kolkata Port.

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## **Airways:**

The airways is a fast-developing means of transport in India. Government-owned Indian Airlines and other private airlines provide domestic air services. Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. provides helicopter services to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation for its off shore operations.

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## Airways:

### Advantages of Airways

- It is the fastest means of communication. It has greatly reduced travelling time.
- It can easily travel across mountainous regions, deserts, dense forests and great oceanic stretches.
- During natural calamities such as floods or landslides, it helps in providing relief to affected people who inhabit difficult terrains.

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## Airways:

The greatest disadvantage of air travel is that it is an expensive means of transport and is not within the reach of common people. Only in the northeastern parts of the country, special provisions are provided to the people.



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## Pipelines:

Pipeline network uses pipes, usually underground, to transport and distribute fluids. These are used to transport water, crude oil, petroleum products and natural gas, fertilizer factories and big thermal power plants. Solids can also be transported through a pipeline when converted into slurry.

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## Pipelines:

There are 3 important networks of pipeline transportation in the country.

- From oil field in upper Assam to Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh)
- From Salaya in Gujarat to Jalandhar in Punjab
- From Hazira in Gujarat to Jagdishpur in Uttar Pradesh



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## Communication:

- Some important means of communication are television, radio, press, newspapers and telecom. The Indian postal network is the largest in the world. It handles parcels and written communications.



*Emergency call box on NH-8*

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## Communication:

- **First class mail includes cards and envelopes and second class mail includes books and newspapers. Six mail channels have been opened to ensure quick transport of mails. They are Rajdhani channel, Metro channel, Green channel, Business channel, Bulk mail channel and Periodical channel.**

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## Communication:

- India has one of the largest telecom networks in Asia. STD facilities have now been provided to even far-off villages.
- Mass communication such as radio, TV and newspapers creates awareness among people about various policies of the state and country. Many programmes in local languages are broadcasted across various regions of the country.

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## Communication:

- Doordarshan is the national television channel of India and is one of the largest terrestrial networks in the world.
- Several newspapers, magazines and periodicals are published in several local languages across the country.

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## International Trade:

- The exchange of goods across states and countries is known as trade. Trade between two countries is known as international trade.
- International trade determines the economic prosperity of the country.
- Balance of trade is the difference between the exports and imports of a country. When exports are more than imports, it is known as favourable balance of trade. When imports are more than exports, it is known as unfavourable balance of trade.

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## International Trade:

- Major exports of India include agriculture and allied products, minerals and ores, gems and jewellery and coal. India mainly imports petroleum and petroleum products, pearls and precious stones, coal, coke and machinery. The IT industry of India earns a large amount of foreign exchange for the country.



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## International Trade:

- Tourism is also an important industry. More than 5.78 million foreign tourists visited India in 2010. The tourism industry employs more than 15 million people in the country.
- It also provides support to the handicrafts sector and promotes our culture.
- Some important tourist states of India are Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Rajasthan and the temple towns of south India.

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## Tourism as a Trade:

- Foreign tourist's arrivals in the country witnessed an increase of 11.8 per cent during the year 2010 as against the year 2009, contributing Rs 64,889 crore of foreign exchange in 2010.
- More than 15 million people are directly engaged in the tourism industry.

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## Tourism as a Trade:

### Importance of Tourism

- Tourism promotes national integration, provides support to local handicrafts and cultural pursuits.
- It also helps in the development of international understanding about our culture and heritage.

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## Tourism as a Trade:

### Tourism in India

- Indian is ranked worlds 4th best holiday haven.
- More than 15 million people are directly engaged in the tourism industry.
- Tourism also promotes national integration, provides support to local handicrafts and cultural pursuits.
- It also helps in the development of international understanding about our culture and heritage.

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## Tourism as a Trade:

- Foreign tourists visit India for heritage tourism, eco tourism, adventure tourism, cultural tourism, medical tourism and business tourism.
- Rajasthan, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir and temple towns of south India are important destinations of foreign tourists in India. There is vast potential of tourism development in the north-eastern states and the interior parts of Himalayas, but due to strategic reasons these have not been encouraged so far.

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